

**RECORDS OF PROCEEDINGS
CLARIDON TOWNSHIP
REGULAR MEETING**

December 16, 2024

The regular meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm with the following members present: Trustees- Roger Miller, Jonathan Tiber, and Cooper Sherman.

Ms. Olszewski took roll call for attendance. Mr. Miller, Mr. Tiber and Mr. Sherman responded here.

**RESOLUTION TO APPOINT A DEPUTY FISCAL OFFICER PURSUANT TO
ORC 507.02- 2024-37**

Motion by Mr. Tiber, second by Mr. Miller to appoint a Deputy Fiscal Officer, Ms. Karen Hawkins, to carry out the duties of a Claridon Township Fiscal Officer during the unpaid absence of Ms. Paula J. Hietanen; effective 12/16/2024, and ending on 1/11/2025. Ms. Hawkins shall be paid a fixed sum of \$2,000 for her services. Ms. Hietanen is currently unable to carry out the duties of a Claridon Township Fiscal Officer for a reason enumerated in ORC 507.02, and shall resume her position on 1/13/2025. There was a discussion about how grateful the BOT is to Ms. Hawkins for her willingness to assist our Township during such difficult and busy time of the year (year end financials). A roll call vote was taken.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Mr. Miller: Aye, Mr. Tiber: Aye, Mr. Sherman: Aye.

Motion carried.

Official letters to grant Fiscal Deputy, Ms. Karen Hawkins, access to the UAN system, and the Bank were presented and signed during tonight's meeting.

Fiscal Deputy Oath of Office for Ms. Karen Hawkins was performed by Mr. Tiber.

**MOTION TO APPROVE FOR MS. OLSZEWSKI TO TAKE TODAY'S MEETING
MINUTES- 24-148**

Motion by Mr. Tiber, second by Mr. Sherman to approve for Ms. Olszewski to take today's minutes. There was no discussion and a roll call vote was taken.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Mr. Miller: Aye, Mr. Tiber: Aye, Mr. Sherman: Aye.

Motion carried.

DECEMBER 2, 2024 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES-24-149

Motion by Mr. Tiber, second by Mr. Sherman to approve regular meeting minutes of 12/02/2024 as written. There was no discussion and a roll call vote was taken.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Mr. Miller: Abstain, Mr. Tiber: Aye, Mr. Sherman: Aye.

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Motion carried.

TEMPORARY APPROPRIATIONS RESOLUTION- 2024-38

Motion by Mr. Tiber, second by Mr. Sherman to accept 2025 Temporary Appropriations as presented by the Fiscal Officer. There was no discussion and a roll call vote was taken.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Mr. Miller: Aye, Mr. Tiber: Aye, Mr. Sherman: Aye.

Motion carried.

ADVANCE OF TAXES RESOLUTION- 2024-39

Motion by Mr. Tiber, second by Mr. Sherman to adopt a resolution to request an advance of tax monies available from 2025 full year collection. There was no discussion and a roll call vote was taken.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Mr. Miller: Aye, Mr. Tiber: Aye, Mr. Sherman: Aye.

Motion carried.

TEMPORARY BLANKETS AND PURCHASE ORDERS RESOLUTION- 2024-40

Motion by Mr. Tiber, second by Mr. Sherman to accept the 2025 Temporary Purchase Orders and Blankets as presented by the Fiscal Officer during tonight's meeting. There was no discussion and a roll call vote was taken.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Mr. Miller: Aye, Mr. Tiber: Aye, Mr. Sherman: Aye.

Motion carried.

ELECTED OFFICIALS' SALARIES MOTION- 24-150

Motion by Mr. Tiber, second by Mr. Sherman to adopt a motion that the Elected Officials of Claridon Township in Geauga County will be paid an annual salary to maximum compensation as permitted per the ORC 505.24 for 2025, and will be paid in equal monthly installments. There was no discussion and a roll call vote was taken.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Mr. Miller: Aye, Mr. Tiber: Aye, Mr. Sherman: Aye.

Motion carried.

ELECTED OFFICIALS' SALARIES PAID FROM GENERAL FUND MOTION- 24-151

Motion by Mr. Tiber, second by Mr. Sherman that the Elected Officials' salaries will be paid out of general fund. There was no discussion and a roll vote was called.

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ROLL CALL VOTE:

Mr. Miller: Aye, Mr. Tiber: Aye, Mr. Sherman: Aye.

Motion carried.

APPROPRIATION BY OBJECT GROUP MOTION- 24-152

Motion by Mr. Tiber, second by MR. Miller to adopt a motion to appropriate funds at the object group level for 2025. There was no discussion and a roll call vote was called.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Mr. Miller: Aye, Mr. Tiber: Aye, Mr. Sherman: Aye.

Motion carried.

SINGLE PURCHASE FROM BLANKET MOTION- 24-153

Motion by Mr. Tiber, second by Mr. Sherman to adopt a motion to set the amount for any single purchase from any blanket certificate at \$2000.00 for 2025. There was no discussion and a roll call vote was taken.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Mr. Miller: Aye, Mr. Tiber: Aye, Mr. Sherman: Aye.

Motion carried.

FISCAL OFFICER BLANKET MOTION- 24-154

Motion by Mr. Tiber, second by Mr. Miller to give the Fiscal Officer, Karen Hawkins, the authority to issue a blanket for an amount up to \$10,000 in any line item. There was no discussion and a roll call vote was taken.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Mr. Miller: Aye, Mr. Tiber: Aye, Mr. Sherman: Aye.

Motion carried.

ELECT CHAIRPERSON PRO-TEMPORE MOTION- 24-155

Motion by Mr. Tiber, second by Mr. Sherman to elect Fiscal Officer, Karen Hawkins, Chairperson Pro-Tempore for the purpose of electing officers for the year 2025. There was no discussion and a roll call vote was taken.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Mr. Miller: Aye, Mr. Tiber: Aye, Mr. Sherman: Aye.

Motion carried.

ELECT CHAIRPERSON MOTION- 24-156

Motion by Mr. Miller, second by Mr. Sherman to elect Mr. Tiber as the Chairperson of the Claridon Township Board of Trustees for 2025. There was no discussion and a roll call vote was taken.

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ROLL CALL VOTE:

Mr. Miller: Aye, Mr. Tiber: Aye, Mr. Sherman: Aye.

Motion carried.

ELECT VICE CHAIRPERSON MOTION- 24-157

Motion by Mr. Tiber, second by Mr. Miller to elect Mr. Sherman as Vice Chairperson of the Claridon Township Board of Trustees for 2025. There was no discussion and a roll call vote was taken.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Mr. Miller: Aye, Mr. Tiber: Aye, Mr. Sherman: Aye.

Motion carried.

GUESTS

Mr. Ken Burnett, Burton Township, to present the BOT with a list of parcels on the entire length of Durkee Road; total of 32 parcels, 14 in Burton Twp, 16 in Claridon Twp, 2 in Huntsburg, and 2 in Middlefield. The list also presents the approximate property tax that each Township collects. Mr. Burnett, and the rest of the Burton Twp would still like to see Durkee Road paved with the financial assistance from Claridon Township.

Mr. Tiber thanked Mr. Burnett for gathering all of the information and presenting it during tonight's meeting. He reminded Mr. Burnett and the rest of the audience that Durkee Road is a road dedicated to Burton Township only, and has been for the last 175 years. Mr. Tiber said that legal counsel (Prosecutor's Office) advised the BOT not to spend Claridon Township tax payers' money on improvements of a road located in and dedicated to Burton Township.

Mr. Burnett responded that he disagrees with legal counsel's advice and believes that this matter should be taken one step further, to the Attorney General's Office, for more information. He and the rest of his BOT believe that if Claridon is collecting property taxes from properties located on Claridon portion of Durkee Road, they (Claridon Township BOT) should degree to pay for paving of the road. Mr. Burnett also asked for a copy of the letter for the legal counsel advising not to financially assist paving of the Durkee Road, since it is a road dedicated to Burton Township. Mr. Tiber will be providing the requested information to Mr. Burnett.

Chief Brian Davidson, Burton Volunteer Fire Department, was in attendance to present a list of calls/reports for Claridon Township; total of overall YTD calls for BVFD 1174, 78 YTD calls in Claridon Township.

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TRANSFERS

TRANSFER RESOLUTION 2024-41

Motion by Mr. Miller, second by Mr. Tiber to amend the 2024 Permanent Appropriations as follows:

Reallocation appropriation

From:

Road and Bridge Fund:

From: Other Salaries \$10,000.00
2031-330-190-0000

To: Contracted Services \$10,000.00
2031-330-360-0000

There was no discussion and a roll call vote was taken.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Mr. Miller: Aye, Mr. Tiber: Aye, Mr. Sherman: Aye.

Motion carried.

Regular Blanket Certificate for Operating Supplies and gas fund (\$800.32) was presented and signed during tonight's meeting.

CEMETERIES

Cemetery deeds for Joe and Donna Liotta were presented and approved during tonight's meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

The BOT discussed the need to obtain 2 cellphone services plans, for Mr. Joe Stenger (maintenance lead) and Ms. Sheila Drollinger (zoning inspector).

MOTION TO OBTAIN 2 CELLPHONE SERVICE PLANS FOR UP TO \$80.00 PER MONTH FOR BOTH LINES- 24-158

Motion by Mr. Tiber, second by Mr. Miller to get 2 cellphone service plans for up to \$80.00 per month. Cellphones will be used by Mr. Stenger (maintenance lead) and Ms. Drollinger (zoning inspector). There was a discussion that Mr. Sherman will look into this matter and activate Mr. Alusheff's old phone, with a new number, to save on cost.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Mr. Miller: Aye, Mr. Tiber: Aye, Mr. Sherman: Aye.

Motion carried.

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MOTION TO PURCHASE ONE CELL PHONE FOR UP TO \$200.00- 24-159

Motion by Mr. Tiber, second by Mr. Sherman to purchase one cell phone for up to \$200.00. There was no discussion and a roll call vote was taken.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Mr. Miller: Aye, Mr. Tiber: Aye, Mr. Sherman: Aye.

Motion carried.

MEETINGS

Next Trustee meeting will be held on 1/6/2025 at 6:00 pm, next BZA meeting will be held on 1/9/2025 at 6:30 pm, next Zoning Commission meeting will be held on 1/27/2025, at 7pm, and the next GCTA dinner/meeting will be held on 1/8/2025 at 6:30pm in Hambden Twp.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Kellogg asked if the BOT would like to accept a donation of 70 wooden folding chairs from the First Congregational Church, in order to be rented out (free of charge) to Claridon residents. Mr. Tiber thanked Mr. Kellogg for such generous offer. He added that he will check with Ms. Warner (rental custodian) first to see if there is a need for more chairs, prior to accepting the offer.

Mr. Kellogg also asked why no zoning reports have been presented during meeting over the last 2-3 months. Mr. Tiber acknowledged the lack of zoning reports and said that he is not sure why there haven't been any reports for public viewing.

MOTION TO ADJOURN-24-160

Motion by Mr. Tiber, second by Mr. Sherman to adjourn the meeting.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Mr. Miller: Aye, Mr. Tiber: Aye, Mr. Sherman: Aye:

Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lilly Olszewski,
Township Secretary